

Message Text

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16

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EA-06 VO-03 SS-15 CPR-01 SCA-01

PRS-01 SY-05 USSS-00 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 OIC-02 PA-01 USIA-06 /074 W

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R 200455Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0695

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0870

DEPT ALSO FOR NEA/ARP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, OVIP (AL THANI, SUHAYM BIN HAMAD), QA

SUBJ: HIGH LEVEL ATTENDANCE AT 30TH UNGA: GOVT OF QATAR DELEGATION

1. SHAYKH SUHAYM BIN HAMAD AL THANI, QATARI FOREIGN MINISTER, WILL AS USUAL HEAD GOQ DELEGATION TO 30TH UNGA. IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT AMIR, SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD AL THANI, WILL ATTEND SESSION.

2. QATARIS CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO TAKE ANY INITIATIVES DURING DEBATES ON VARIOUS TOPICS. AS MATTER OF POLICY, THEY FOLLOW ARAB, AND PARTICULARLY SAUDI, LEAD ON MOST QUESTIONS. WE HAVE SPOKEN TO SUHAYM ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS ABOUT KOREAN QUESTION, AND ALTHOUGH GOQ SUPPORTED FRIENDLY RESOLUTION LAST YEAR, SUHAYM HAS BEEN CAREFULLY NONCOMMITTAL RE QATARI POSITION FOR THIS YEAR.

3. SUHAYM MAKES NO RPT NO PRETENSE OF EXPERTISE IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HOWEVER, THIS IS HIS MAJOR OUTING FOR THE YEAR AND HE SETS GREAT STORE BY IT, SINCE AMIR IS DISPOSED TO KEEP HIM ON VERY SHORT LEASH MOST OF THE TIME.

4. IN THIS CONNECTION, SUHAYM MAY SEEK BILATERAL MEETING WITH
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SECRETARY IN NEW YORK. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE NO RPT NO SIGNIFICANT

BILATERAL ISSUES BETWEEN US, GOQ PLAYS MODEST ROLE IN IMPORTANT MID EAST SETTLEMENT AND ENERGY ISSUES. PRESTIGE FACTOR IS OVERRIDING ASPECT OF SUHAYM'S DESIRE TO MEET WITH SECRETARY. HE COMPLAINED TO AMBASSADOR LAST YEAR THAT SECRETARY'S LUNCH FOR ARAB HEADS OF DELEGATION WAS NOT RPT NOT A PROPER SUBSTITUTE FOR A FACE-TO-FACE DISCUSSION. (SUHAYM LEFT NEW YORK LAST YEAR BEFORE SECRETARY'S LUNCH.)

5. SUHAYM HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO US THAT HIS PREFERENCE WOULD BE TO BE INVITED TO WASHINGTON FOR A CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY THERE. HIS NOSE WAS VERY MUCH OUT OF JOINT WHEN WE WERE UNABLE TO ARRANGE A WASHINGTON MEETING LAST YEAR, AND HE TOLD AMBASSADOR SO. WE APPRECIATE THAT THIS NOT RPT NOT DESIRABLE FROM DEPT'S POINT OF VIEW, AND RECOMMEND THAT BRIEF BILATERAL BE SET UP IN NEW YORK TO SMOOTH SUHAYM'S FEATHERS WHICH HAVE BEEN RUFFLED FOR A YEAR.
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